

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00

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ACDA-10 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /059 W

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O R 211035Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9075

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 08689

SECSTATE FOR S/PRS AND EUR/CE; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR

MR. SCOWCROFT AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. NESSEN; USIA

FOR IOP/M; IPS; IBS; IEU; FC/STRICKER, NEW YORK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY)

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SUBJECT: PRESS REVIEW, MAY 21, 1976

REF: STATE 093420; USIA 15134

1. NEWS

THE NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING IS THE LEAD STORY IN DIE WELT AND FRONT-PAGE NEWS IN SEVERAL OTHER PAPERS.

HEADLINES:

"KISSINGER AND GENSCHER ENCOURAGE NATO IN OSLO"

KISSINGER REAFFIRMS CONTINUITY OF WASHINGTON'S ALLIANCE POLICY"

"KISSINGER GENERATES CONFIDENCE IN NATO"

"KISSINGER FOR MORE EAST-WEST COOPERATION"

"NATO INTENDS TO CONTINUE DETENTE DIALOGUE BASED ON BALANCE OF FORCES"

"GENSCHER HOPES FOR NEW IMPULSES FOR ALLIANCE"

"LUNS: NATO IN DIFFICULT PHASE"

"RECONCILIATION BETWEEN TURKS AND GREEKS."

DIE WELT (LEAD STORY BY RUEDIGER MONIAC): A BASIC MOOD OF OPTIMISM PREVAILED ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE NATO MEETING, DESPITE THE ALLIANCE'S INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES. AGREEMENT EXISTS BETWEEN KISSINGER AND GENSCHER IN ASSESSING THE SITUATION AND THE NECESSITY OF PREVENTING ANY FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE SOVIET SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. KISSINGER STATED THERE WILL NOT BE ANOTHER ANGOLA. IN SPITE OF ALL DIFFICULTIES FACING THE ALLIANCE, NATO IS IN A POSITION TO STRENGTHEN ITSELF AND TO THWART SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO EXPAND ITS SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. THE NATO MINISTERS AGREE THAT REVITALIZATION OF INTERNAL FORCES IN MEMBER COUNTRIES IS NECESSARY AND POSSIBLE. AGREEMENT BETWEEN KISSINGER AND GENSCHER IN ASSESSING THE SITUATION GAVE THE NATO MEETING A POSITIVE TURN FROM THE VERY BEGINNING. THERE IS GROWING HOPE THAT THE MEETING WILL HAVE THE EFFECT OF STRENGTHENING THE ALLIANCE.

FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE (FRONT-PAGE REPORT FROM OSLO BY GUENTHER GILLESSEN): KISSINGER POINTED OUT THAT THERE MUST NOT BE ANOTHER ANGOLA. HE DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF A "SONNENFELDT DOCTRINE" PROVIDING FOR DIVIDING THE WORLD INTO ZONES OF INFLUENCE OF THE TWO SUPERPOWERS.

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HE USED THE TERM "DETENTE" BUT EQUATED IT WITH "PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH." HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ALLIES CAN COUNT ON CONTINUITY OF AMERICA'S ALLIANCE POLICY AND OF ITS POLICY OF DETENTE BASED ON STRENGTH.

SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG (DPA REPORT FROM OSLO):

KISSINGER TRIED TO GENERATE ALLIED CONFIDENCE IN THE CONTINUITY OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. HE MADE CLEAR THAT,

ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT FORD HAS DROPPED THE TERM "DETENTE,"
THE POLICY OF PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH WILL BE CONTINUED.

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT

BONNER RUNDSCHAU (PRO-CDU): "THE REAL PROBLEM FACING
THE ALLIANCE IS REFLECTED BY THE FACT THAT THE FOREIGN
MINISTERS HAVE NOT MUCH TO SAY TO EACH OTHER AT THE
CONFERENCE TABLE BUT THAT THEY HAVE ALL THE MORE TO
SAY IN CONFIDENTIAL BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. INTERNAL
COHESION IN NATO PERMITS ONLY DISCUSSION IN SMALLEST
GROUPS. MANY NATO CONFERENCES HAVE BEEN MARKED BY
CRISES BEFORE, BUT NEVER BEFORE HAS A CRISIS BEEN SO
HOME-MADE AS THIS ONE...

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"IN THE FOREGROUND OF DISCUSSION IS THE ITALIAN CRISIS.
THE QUESTION IS WHETHER AND TO WHAT EXTENT A COUNTRY
OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ITALY'S CAN REMAIN A NATO
MEMBER IF COMMUNISTS JOIN ITS CABINET. IT IS NECESSARY
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TO MAKE CLEAR TO ITALIAN VOTERS IN TIME WHAT CON-
SEQUENCES THEIR DECISION MAY HAVE... SOME NATO
COUNTRIES TAKE AN INCREASINGLY VAGUE VIEW OF THE THREAT
FACING THE WEST IN THE FORM OF AGGRESSIVE SOVIET POLICY
BASED ON A TREMENDOUS MILITARY POTENTIAL. THAT IS THE
ONLY EXPLANATION OF HOW THE QUESTION COULD ARISE
WHETHER A COUNTRY WITH COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN ITS
GOVERNMENT COULD BE A MEMBER OF AN ALLIANCE AGAINST
COMMUNISM, AND IT IS THE ONLY EXPLANATION OF WHY
SOLIDARITY AMONG ALLIANCE PARTNERS COULD DECLINE TO
SUCH AN EXTENT AS TO GIVE RISE TO CONFLICT BETWEEN
GREECE AND TURKEY OR ICELAND AND GREAT BRITAIN.

PROBLEM IN THE DISCUSSION... ALL PARTNERS SHOULD
REALIZE THAT THE CONTINUING THREAT TO BERLIN'S FREE-
DOM REFLECTS THE CONTINUING THREAT TO THE FREEDOM OF
THE WEST AS A WHOLE..."

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG (INDEP): "THE NATO MEETING IN OSLO
IS OVERSHADOWED BY THE QUESTION OF WHAT ITALY'S ROAD
WILL BE AFTER THE ELECTIONS... NOW IS THE TIME FOR
NATO TO SEEK A COMMON POSITION TO BE TAKEN TOWARD AN
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT COMPRISING COMMUNISTS. SINCE THIS
ISSUE CONTAINS MUCH DYNAMITE FOR THE WESTERN ALLIANCE
ITSELF, THERE IS GREAT TEMPTATION TO POSTPONE EFFORTS
TO COPE WITH IT. THE BASIC PROBLEM CERTAINLY IS NOT
ONLY OF A MILITARY NATURE. THE WESTERN ALLIANCE WAS
ESTABLISHED TO PROTECT THE 'FREE WEST' AGAINST THE
COMMUNIST THREAT. NOW THE DEFENSE ALLIANCE FINDS
ITSELF CONFRONTED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF
HAVING COMMUNISTS IN ITS OWN RANKS..."
HILLENBRAND

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